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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bloom *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/227,742

Filed: January 8, 1999

For: **Method for Increasing Viability
and Transformation Efficiency of
Bacteria During Storage at Low
Temperatures**

Confirmation No. 7763

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Yucel, I.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4770003/RWE/FRC

Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 is a document that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The numbering on this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is a continuation of the numbering in Applicants' First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 29, 2000 in connection with the above-captioned application. A copy of the document is also provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not

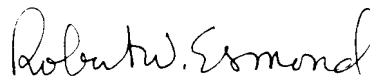
be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered. This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Attached is our Check No. 33435 in the amount of \$ 180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Dec. 5, 2001

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